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IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DB  
4/23  
#18/B

In the Application of:

Grooms, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/722,205

Filed: November 25, 2000

For: "Intervertebral Spacers"  
(As Amended)

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Eduardo C. Robert

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date:

April 10, 2003  
  
Donald J. Pochopien  
Registration No. 32,167  
Attorney for Applicants

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT and  
ELECTION OF INVENTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 121

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

APR 21 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of 01/14/03, for which a response was due 02/14/03, now extended two (2) months to 04/14/03, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner make the following amendments to the specification and the claims in addition to considering the Applicants' election of invention.

In the Title:

Please delete the title and substitute therefor the following:

-- Intervertebral Spacers --